Property Owning — [redacted] 1912

Cherokee Freedmen Have Right to Share in Distribution of Property Belonging to Indians

District of Columbia Supreme Court Renders Decision Against Full Blood Members of Tribe Who Sought To Disbar Half-Breds.

Print ad 2-2-12

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The right of 5,000 Cherokee freedmen to participate in the distribution of the lands and funds belonging to the Cherokee Indian nation was sustained today by Judge Anderson of the District of Columbia Supreme Court. The court sustained the government's demurrer to a suit of the Keetoowah society to restrain the Secretary of the Interior from permitting the freedmen participation in the property. The case was dismissed.

The freedmen claim that their shares in the property run anywhere from $5,000,000 to $50,000,000. The Keetowah Society is composed of full blood Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma.

The freedmen are the descendants of slaves of the Cherokees and are of mixed Indian and negro blood. The court in dismissing the suit, said the freedmen were clearly entitled to equal rights with the native Cherokees

Christian Record 1-25-12

INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS.

Wonderful Achievements of the Race In Pennsylvania.

Unusual public comment has been aroused in the annual report of John L. Rockey, chief recorder of the state bureau of industrial statistics, because of the fact that for the first time there is included in his report an account of the realty holdings, personal property and industrial activities among the colored people of the state. The report shows that individuals and organizations hold title to real estate valued at $20,000,000. The assessment on said realty amounts to $13,000,000.

In the city of Philadelphia alone the race owns 1,080 parcels of real estate subject to taxation, of which the assessed valuation is $2,801,275. In Pittsburgh there are 643 pieces of property credited to members of the race, with an assessed value of $1,437,060, the market value of which is $2,153,000. In other cities, like Harrisburg, the property holdings of the colored citizens are estimated at from $35,000 to $150,000.

Mr. Rockey's report further shows that there are upward of 80,000 persons of African descent employed at gainful occupations, classified as follows: Engaged at domestic service, 69.4 per cent; manufacturing, 12.9 per cent; transportation, 11.6 per cent; agriculture, 4.6 per cent, and in professional service, 1.5 per cent.

Within the past decade there have sprung up a number of thrifty business concerns which give employment to members of the race. There are eleven building and loan associations in the state conducted by persons of means and experience. There are 359 churches besides many other religious organizations owned by the colored people in the state, which are valued at $3,160,267.

GEORGIA NEGROES PAY TAXES ON $34,022,379.

Interesting Figures Compiled Showing Property Holdings Of Negro Population.

The assessed valuation of property returned for taxation by Negroes in Georgia, in 1911, is $34,022,379, as compared to $32,234,037 in 1910. The year's gain was $1,788,342.

These figures and many others equally as interesting regarding the property holdings of the state's colored population, are contained in statistics just compiled by Captain Tip Harrison, in charge of the tax department of the comptroller general's offices.

Atlanta Georgian 4-13-12

The 1911 tax digests show that 119,871 Negroes paid poll taxes, and that 4,685 defaulted.

Included among the property-owning Negroes are seven lawyers, 16 dentists, and 133 physicians.

The number of dogs returned for taxation by Negroes is 54,926. They own 1,639,919 acres of improved land, with an assessment valuation of $10,358,653. Their city and town property is taxed at $9,615,604; stocks and bonds, $1,700; money and solvent debts, $237,214; merchandise, $240,444; household and kitchen furniture, $3,249,203; watches, silver plate and jewelry, $41,970; horses, mules, hogs, sheep, cattle, etc., $7,931,264; plantations and mechanical tools, $1,648,897; value of all other property, $377,479; value of property of defaulters (single), $319,955.—Atlanta Journal.

PENNSYLVANIA NEGROES

Have Title to Real Estate Valued at $20,000,000 — Own 329 Churches Valued at $3,160,267.

1-11-12

Special to THE NEW YORK AGE.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Jan. 9.—Details of the ownership of reality in this State by Negroes presented for the first time in the annual report of Chief John L. Rockey of the State Bureau of Industrial Statistics, which states that colored men and and organizations have title to realty estate in Pennsylvania valued at $20,000,000 and assessed at $13,000,000. In Philadelphia Negroes own 1,080 parcels of real estate subject to taxation, having an assessed value of $2,801,275. In Pittsburgh they own 643 assessable properties with an assessed value of $1,437,000 and a market value of $2,153,000. In other cities the value of their property is from $35,000 to $150,000.

The report shows returns on 80,000 Negroes who are earning livelihoods among the classification being: Domestic service, 69.4 per cent.; manufacturing, 12.9; transportation, 11.6; agricultural, 4.6, and professional service, 1.5. Eleven building associations are conducted by colored people.

The churches owned by colored people in the state number 329, valued at $3,160,257.